

Santa Barbara County  
System Improvement Plan Approval Document  
Received      September 30, 2004

Program Areas	Improvement Plan			Anticipated Date of Completion
	*Required		Strategy	
	Yes	No		
<b>Safety</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recurrence of Maltreatment</li></ul>	X		<b>Develop and implement the use of comprehensive assessment tools that are used earlier and more consistently in the life of a referral and case.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Confer with CWS staff to review use of the current CWS Risk Assessment tool to identify barriers that hinder its consistent use in assessment and decision-making and explore alternative such as Structured-Decision-Making.</li><li>Select the comprehensive assessment tool (s) and develop protocol that will be utilized for initial assessment, team re-assessments, and case planning.</li><li>Develop implementation plan for use of the tool(s) by CWS staff, provide training to both CWS and partner agency staff, and implement tools.</li></ul>	<div>Nov. '04</div> <div>Sept. '05</div> <div>Apr. '06</div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Abuse/Neglect in foster care</li></ul>		X	<b>Standardize the agency process for reporting incidents of alleged abuse or neglect in out-of-home care</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Write a CWS Reference Guide section defining the various types of reports and directing how reports are made and present for review and training</li></ul> <b>Revise agency protocol for Central Intake Unit (“Child Abuse Hotline”) for handling, recording and assigning reports alleging abuse or neglect in out-of-home care</b>	<div>Mar. '05</div>

\*The "yes" in the required column represents measures that did not meet the PIP target. The January 2004 and October 2004 county data reports were used.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise Business Processes guide and present for review and conduct training.</li> </ul> <p><b>Develop a standardized procedure for coordinating assessment/investigation of alleged abuse/neglect in foster/relative care by Licensing and Child Protective Services staff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convene a work group of investigation, placement and licensing staff to develop procedures that will reviewed and presented to CWS Team.</li> <li>Conduct unit training of all staff and implement procedure with ongoing monitoring.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conduct exit interviews of all children leaving a placement.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop structured exit interview form and process for reviewing and acting upon information collected.</li> <li>Develop racking report on exits from foster/relative care.</li> <li>Instruct staff to conduct exit interviews with any children they have on the reports.</li> </ul>	<p>June '05</p> <p>Feb. '05</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Feb. '06</p> <p>Mar '06</p> <p>May '06</p>
			<i>Data reports Safe Measures and contact with county will be used to monitor progress</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timely ER Response</li> </ul>		X		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social Worker Visits with child</li> </ul>	X		<b>In some cases, staff is delayed in entering data and inconsistent in the use of the visit exception in the Child Welfare Service/Case</b>	

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			<b>management System (CWS/CMS), therefore county needs to understand methodology that the State and UC Berkeley uses. (Source taken from the Self-Assessment)</b>	Ongoing
<b>Permanency</b>				
• Time to Reunification		X		
			<i>Data reports, Safe Measures and contact with county will be used to monitor progress</i>	
• Time to Adoption		X		
• Placement Stability		X		
• Foster Care re-entry	X		<b>Establish consistent collaborative processes for assessing families' potential for successful reunification.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand Team Decision Making (TDM) protocol to include holding TDM;s at six month intervals for all Family Reunification, Family Maintenance, and Linkages cases.</li> </ul>	Ongoing
<b>Well-Being</b>				
• Preserving family relationships				
• Least Restrictive Placements				
• ICWA Placements				
• ILP				
<b>Systemic</b>				
• Statewide Information System				
• Case Review System				

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality Assurance System</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service Array</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agency Responsiveness to the Community</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment and Retention</li> </ul>				

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